

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following:

[00001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Design Patent **D483156** ~~Application Serial No. 29/160,054, filed May 2, 2002~~; and claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/394,181, filed July 3, 2002, and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/465,119, filed April 24, 2003. U.S. Design Patent ~~Application Serial No. 29/160,054~~ **D483156**, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/394,181, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/465,119 are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entireties for all purposes.

Please replace paragraph 28 with the following:

[00028] The back panel 20 preferably defines an aperture 28 for use when assembling and disassembling the enclosure, and for moving the enclosure. A handle 30 is preferably provided for use when transporting the enclosure once disassembled. The side panels 14, 16 preferably define a longitudinal opening 17 for ventilation of the enclosure. The front panel 18 preferably defines an opening 24 therein for access by a housecat, domestic dog or other pets of typical size. Different sizes of enclosures may be provided for pets of different sizes. The front panel 18 also preferably comprises a door 26 preferably hinged on a vertical axis to allow the door 26 to swing both inwardly into the enclosure and outwardly from the enclosure, and to latch in a closed position and in an inwardly open position. The door preferably comprises a latch ~~28~~ **32** that is operable with one hand. Latching the door in the closed position prevents entry and/or exit; whereas latching the door in the inwardly open position allows free entry and exit without unintentional closing, and without the open door extending into human living space where it might create a tripping hazard or obstruct a walkway.

Please replace paragraph 33 with the following:

[00033] With reference now to Figs. 2 and 7a-7c, the front panel 18 preferably defines an opening 24 within which a door 26 is hingedly mounted. The door 26 preferably pivots both inwardly into the enclosure and outwardly of the enclosure, as indicated by the directional arc in Fig. 7a. A latch **28 32**, such as a spring-biased element, one or more magnetic coupling(s), and/or other releasable connector(s) is preferably mounted to the door 26 for securing the door in its closed position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 7b to prevent exit or entrance into the enclosure 10. The latch **28 32** preferably also allows the door 26 to be secured in an inwardly open position, as shown in Fig. 7c, and/or in an outwardly open position, so that the pet may freely enter and exit the enclosure 10, whereby the enclosure serves more as a “den” or refuge for the pet than a cage or enclosure. Latching the door 26 in an inwardly open position also prevents inadvertent opening of the door and keeps the door out of the way of human foot traffic passing by the enclosure 10, where it otherwise might create a tripping hazard or an obstacle. The latch **28 32** is preferably operable with one hand to open and close the door 26, so that the user has another hand free, for example to grab the pet’s collar to attach a leash. In alternate embodiments, the latch is mounted internally of the enclosure for improved aesthetics.